



Ninety-Eighth Legislature - First Session - 2003
Committee Statement
LB 778

Hearing Date: March 4, 2003

Committee On: Education

Introducer(s): (Beutler)

Title: Change provisions relating to statewide student assessments and academic standards

Roll Call Vote – Final Committee Action:

Advanced to General File

Advanced to General File with Amendments

X Indefinitely Postponed

Vote Results:

7	Yes	Senators Schrock, Maxwell, Stuhr, Raikes, Bourne, Byars, McDonald
0	No	
0	Present, not voting	
1	Absent	Senator Brashear

Proponents:

Senator Chris Beutler

Representing:

Introducer

Opponents:

Ed Montgomery
Julie Otero
Renee Jacobson

Representing:

Kimball Public Schools
Lexington Public Schools
Plattsmouth Community Schools
Greater Nebraska School Superintendents
Nebraska State Education Association
Oshgosh Elementary School District #131
Educational Service Unit #3
Nebraska State School Boards Association
Elkhorn Public Schools
Lincoln Public Schools
self
Waverly Public Schools
Pierce Public Schools
Pierce Public Schools
Pierce Public Schools
Pierce parent
Nebraska State School Board
Nebraska State School Board

Jay Sears
Paula Sissel
Gil Kettlehut
John Bonaiuto
Cindy Gray
Marilyn Moore
Bob Haller
Toby Ross
Dave Navrkal
Marcia Luebbe
Joan Palmquist
Beth Blair
Beverly Peterson
Stephen Scherr

Neutral:

Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

Legislative Bill 778 would amend § 79-760 by replacing the statewide system for the assessment of student learning with a statewide test for the assessment of student learning. The assessment and reporting system would become the assessment and reporting test. The writing assessment would be expanded from 3 grades to 5. Each year 2 of the 5 grades, instead of 1 of the 3 grades, would participate in the writing assessment. After the 2007-08 school year, the State Board of Education would be required to select 1 of the 4 model assessments as the assessment which would be used by all districts.

Section 79-760.01 would be amended by expanding from 3 to 5 grade levels for which the State Board would be required to adopt academic content standards. The deadline would be extended from July 1, 2001 to July 1, 2005.

Section 79-760.02 would be amended by extending the deadline for school districts to adopt their own standards from July 1, 2003 to July 1, 2005. District standards could be the same as the state standards or exceed the state standards in rigor, but could no longer be equal to the state standards in rigor.

Explanation of amendments, if any:

Senator Ron Raikes, Chairperson